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ACTION EA-12
INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
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E.O. 11652: N A
TAGS: SOPN, KS, US
SUBJECT: KOREAN MEDIA ON PARK SONG SON CASE
REF: (A) SEOUL 144 (0908027 JAN 78)

1. PRESS JANUARY 10 FRONT PAGES ARRIVAL OF DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL CIVILETTI AND PARTY, AND GREETING AT AIRPORT BY VICE MINISTER OF JUSTICE. REPORTS PREDICT SIGNING OF MUTUAL PROSECUTION ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT ON JANUARY 10 "IF THE DISCUSSIONS ARE SATISFACTORY", WITH QUESTIONING OF PARK TONG SON TO BEGIN THURSDAY.

2. QUESTIONED BY REPORTERS CONCERNING HIS ROLE VIS-A-VIS CONGRESSIONAL INEREST IN THE CASE, CIVILETTI REPORTEDLY SAID "I HAVE BEEN DELEGATED NO AUTHORITY IN THAT REGARD. HOWEVER, I CERTAINLY THINK IT MAKES COMMON SENSE FOR US TO CHAT ABOUT IT." HE INDICATED HE EXPECTED HIS WORK IN SEOUL TO LAST ABOUT TWO WEEKS. REGARDING SUBSTANCE OF HIS INQUIRIES, CIVILETTI IS QUOTED AS SAYING "WE WILL ASK PARK ABOUT

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RELEVANT FACTS CONCERNING EVENTS WHICH OCCURRED IN THE UNITED STATES OR MAY HAVE OCCURRED IN THE UNITED STATES AND FACTS RELATING TO HIS CONDUCT OF SOME BUSINESS MATTERS THERE AND HIS MEETINGS AND OTHER THINGS WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE HAPPENED."

3. PRESS FURTHER REPORTS ARRIVAL IN SEOUL OF PARK'S ATTORNEY WILLIAM HUNDLEY. PAPERS AFTERNOON OF JANUARY 10 REPEAT NEW YORK TIMES REPORT THAT HUNDLEY SUGGESTED PARK MIGHT BE WILLING TO TESTIFY BEFORE A CLOSED JOINT SESSION OF THE THREE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES INVOLVED IN THE CASE.

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